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reader will peruse with interest the accounts of the sleeping sickness and of beri-beri. This latter disease is said to have been practically eliminated from the Japanese Navy by increasing the nitrogenous ration and diminishing the carbohydrates.

DAVID H. BUEL.

**Handbuch der Regionalen Geologie.** Herausgegeben von Prof. Dr. G. Steinmann und Prof. Dr. O. Wilckens. Heft 1: Dänemark. Von N. V. Ussing. 38 pp. Mk. 1. 60; 2: Island. Von J. Pjeturss. 22 pp. Mk. 1. 20; 3: The Philippine Islands. By W. D. Smith. With a chapter on the lithology by J. P. Iddings. 24 pp. Mk. 1. 20; 4: Die mittelatlantischen Vulkaninseln. Von C. Gagel. 32 pp. Mk. 1. 40; 5: New Zealand and adjacent Islands. By P. Marshall. 78 pp. Mk. 3. 50; 6: Madagascar. By P. Lemoine. 44 pp. Mk. 2. 10; 7: La Péninsule Ibérique, A.—Espagne. By R. Douvillé. 175 pp. Mk. 8; 8: Persien. Von A. F. Stahl. 46 pp. Mk. 2. 80; 9: Oceania. By P. Marshall. 36 pp. Mk. 1.60; 10: Armenien. By F. Oswald. Mk. 2. 80; 11: United States of North America. By E. Blackwelder. 258 pp. Mk. 11; 12: Niederlande. By G. A. F. Molengraaff and W. A. J. M. van Waterschoot van der Gracht. 98 pp. Mk. 4. Maps in each. C. Winter, Heidelberg, 1913.

This excellent work aims to present a general account of the geology of the world. Of the fifty-five parts into which the work is divided, twelve have thus far appeared, all but two of which (those dealing with the United States and Armenia) are here briefly reviewed. The various regions of the globe are described by different authors, but one plan of treatment is usually followed. After a brief synopsis of the morphology, the stratigraphy and petrology of each region are discussed at some length and a summary of the geological history is given. The orographic elements may then be presented more fully, after which economic geology is described. A bibliography for the region concludes each number. Individual authors alter this plan of treatment in a few cases.

N. V. Ussing describes the geology of Denmark in a fascicle of some three dozen pages, calling attention to the participation of the northeastern part of the country in the post-glacial uplift of Scandinavia, and to the earthquakes to which this region is subjected. The orographic elements of the country are described under the three headings: Bornholm Island, all but the southern end of which belongs to the oldland of Scandinavia; the Danish Plain, a part of the ancient, glaciated coastal plain which flanks the oldland on the south; and the Faroe Islands, a group of basaltic islands north of Scotland deeply scarred by glacial erosion. Iceland is more briefly treated by H. Pjeturss, who describes it as a basalt plateau, broken by fault lines, dissected by stream erosion, and strongly glaciated. Above the plateau rise volcanic cones, and on its surface rest several ice fields. Vulcanism and glaciation have alternately and repeatedly affected the same areas, moraines and basalt flows occurring in interstratified series.

In the third fascicle Warren D. Smith discusses briefly the Philippine Islands, which appear to be a maturely dissected and partially submerged mountain system with principal axes extending north-south, and a group of minor ranges trending northeast-southwest. The mountain slopes usually descend rather abruptly to the water, but occasionally a narrow, ragged fringe of coastal plain has resulted from uplift. Volcanoes are arranged along parallel fissures, or groups of fissures, which coincide with the anticlinal axes of the islands. J. P. Iddings contributes a chapter on "lithology," and this, together with liberal quotations from other writers on Philippine geology, constitutes one-half of the descriptive text.

The volcanic islands of the Middle Atlantic are described by C. Gagel, who, after a few introductory paragraphs, presents a short account of the Cape Verde, Azores, Salvage and Madeira Islands, and a more detailed account of the Canaries. The author notes that ancient sedimentary and volcanic rocks belonging to the European-African continental mass are found in some of the Cape Verde and Canary Islands, and concludes that the islands were separated from the mainland in comparatively recent times, since the island flora and fauna show close relationship with those of the nearby continents.

New Zealand receives a more extended treatment in a fascicle of nearly eighty pages written by P. Marshall. According to this author the two main islands of New Zealand represent partially submerged mountain systems, most of which are due to complex folding, while others, believed by some to be block mountains, are described as the product of stream erosion upon an uplifted peneplain. In the southern island, glacial troughs with their associated hanging valleys are numerous, and magnificent fiords indent the southwestern coast. Vulcanism has done more to give the northern island its present form, a plateau of pumice and rhyolite flows partially covering the older mountain folds and supporting on its surface volcanic cones of striking magnitude. Bordering both islands are narrow plains of gravel and elevated beaches. Numerous topographic features are described in terms of their relation to local lakes, rivers, and towns not shown on any map in the report, with the result that the reader is unable to extract any intelligent idea from whole paragraphs of the text which undoubtedly contain important information.

From Paul Lemoine's account of Madagascar the geographical reader infers that this large island represents an oldland of crystalline rocks bordered on the west by an ancient coastal plain so dissected as to show one prominent river lowland drained by subsequent rivers, and a less conspicuous subsequent depression nearer the western shore; while on the east the oldland ends abruptly in a fault scarp believed to be of recent date, and characterized by readjustments giving frequent earthquakes. Stratigraphy and lithology are discussed at much length, while a good review of the economic geology of the island concludes the report.

Spain receives a more extended treatment than any other region covered by the ten fascicles here reviewed. Yet the geographer will regret that in his 162 pages of text Robert Douvillé has said so little about the morphology of the country. Nearly three-fourths of the report is devoted to an elaborate account of the stratigraphy, most excellently illustrated with maps and diagrams. Petrographic details of the eruptive rocks, and the structural features of the peninsula are treated at length, as is also the economic geology.

In his account of Persia, A. F. Stahl classifies the mountain ranges of the Iranian highland according to the trends of their axes, and discusses briefly the forces which produced the ranges and the Caspian and Aral depressions. Valuable space is sacrificed to a detailed description of mountain trends and to lists of rivers classified according to hydrographic basins, data which could much better be presented by means of a map. The section on orographic elements deals too largely with the directions, heights and breadths of mountain ranges, and too little with the more significant elements of form and structure.

Oceania as described by P. Marshall includes the smaller islands north and east of eastern Australia. The grouping of the islands into belts within each of which the geological conditions are rather uniform, and the form of oceanic ridges and troughs are discussed; but the morphological significance of these details receives little attention. The various island groups are described, and it is shown that most of them are of volcanic rock or coralline limestone. With few exceptions the islands are surrounded by coral reefs. Marshall reviews briefly the various theories as to the origin of these reefs, and concludes that Darwin's hypothesis of a subsiding ocean floor is the best explanation, at least, for the reefs in the Cook and Society Groups.

A fascicle of nearly a hundred pages describing the Netherlands has been prepared by G. A. F. Molengraaff and W. A. J. M. van Waterschoot van der Gracht. While the present surface of the country is largely formed by the deltas of the Rhine and the Meuse, older beds are exposed in the dissected uplands or south Limburg and in the low hills of the east-central part of the country. The delta plain is dissected and terraced by the rivers, and its northern portion is covered by morainal and other glacial deposits. All but half a dozen pages of the report are devoted to stratigraphy and geological structure.

Throughout the work as a whole the stratigraphic geology is most emphasized, while physiographic geology receives the least attention. For the student of stratigraphy and historical geology the work will have its highest value.

D. W. JOHNSON.